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from Skylab Altimetry

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Principal Investigator: Allan Shapiro

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Technical Monitor: Larry York
NASA Johnson Space Center
Code TF6
Houston, Texas 77058

The analysis of Skylab altimeter topographic height measurements of Pass 28 (SL-3) has been completed. The results over complex areas are similar to those obtained in Pass 1 (SL-2) i.e., the maximum return is obtained from the lower heights within the observed footprint. A conspicuous feature of Pass 28 was the relatively long ground track (about 85 Km) over the Salt Flats, where the height changed by only a few meters. The standard deviation of residuals over this area, which includes survey errors, the error in reading the height from the geological survey maps and the altimeter measurement error, is of the order of ± 4 m.

Topographic height analysis of Pass 17 (SL-3) will be completed in the next reporting period, and additional waveform characteristics over selected areas from both Pass 17 and 18 of SL-3 will be investigated.